

**OPINION**  
**51-11**

July 13, 1951        (OPINION)

ASSESSORS

RE: Who is "Competent Citizen"

In your letter of July ninth you request the opinion of this office as to whether or not the "competent citizen" who may be appointed as a special assessor under the provisions of section 57-1408 (2) N.D.R.C. must be a resident of the district which is to be reassessed.

Our Supreme Court has not, so far as we can ascertain, passed upon this question.

Since the universal rule in American government is that an officer must be a citizen and resident of the governmental subdivision which he represents, it is our opinion that such "competent citizen" must be a citizen of such district and therefor he must be a resident and an elector of such district.

ELMO T. CHRISTIANSON

Attorney General